SCHOOL READINESS PROGRAM DIRECTORY INFORMATION (School Readiness Program Profile)

County Commission: Tehama **Executive Director:** Denise Snider

Address: P.O. Box 8580, Red Bluff, CA 96080

Phone: (530) 528-1395 **FAX:** (530) 528-1396

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School Readiness Program: Gerber Family

Center

Contact: Roger Steel

Title: Superintendent/Principal

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School District/School	Enrollment	Grades
Gerber Union Elementary	520	K-8

School District/School	Enrollment	Grades

Community Characteristics

The Gerber community is a richly diverse community with nearly 50% of its members being non-Caucasian and non- or limited-English speakers. This neighborhood is also characterized by a higher poverty level than the rest of the county. Twenty-five percent of the households are on public assistance, with 77% of Gerber students on free or reduced lunch. Nearly 30% of Gerber adult residents do not have a high school diploma. The Gerber community also leads the county in teenage births, pre-term births, and low-weight infants.

Gerber is physically located midway between Corning and Red Bluff, with miles separating it from any major population hub. Consequently, Gerber is often overlooked for services from community agencies. Transportation is a challenge for Gerber families.

Despite the level of poverty, the Gerber community is made up of caring parents and families, with the school seen as the hub of the community.

Services and Programs (List one 'new' strategy or service in the 5 Essential and Coordinated Elements) Early Care and Education - Gerber State Preschool will be participating in the Early Reading First program. These funds will provide critical funding to access and evaluate key components of Early Education, allowing schools to analyze what works and what does not through scientific analysis. A four-week Kindergarten Camp, will be provided in the summer for preschoolers. The Tehama County Library will provide family Literacy program. The 'Parents As Teachers' home visiting program will be instituted by the Tehama County Department of Education (Even Start) to reach high-risk young children and their families in Gerber. Creative Childcare Center will work with Gerber to increase the number of quality childcare spaces open to families.

Parent and Family Support - A parent leadership class for Hispanic Mom's will be offered annually — this will include a weeklong training followed by a monthly support group. There will also be a grandparent support group, adult literacy program, & ESL. Books and materials for parents to work with their children will be available in English and Spanish in the Gerber Family Center.

Health and Social Services - Nutritional classes will be held for parents at the Gerber Family Center with transportation and childcare provided. Parents will be assisted in applying for Healthy Families Health Insurance. Children will be

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screened to identify special needs and/or developmental delays with appropriate referral and follow-up. Children will receive social services as identified, such as substance abuse and mental health counseling.

School Capacity - School staff (preschool/kindergarten) will learn about community resources, eligibility for services, who to contact and ways to refer children and families. Cross-training on standards articulation will occur with kindergarten teachers, preschool teachers & aides, as well as local child care providers.

Program Infrastructure and Administration - A School Readiness Coordinator will be hired half time to coordinate services and classes for parents and children ages 0-5. A bi-lingual liaison will also be hired to assist parents with enrollment into early education programs, social service referrals, health screenings, and health insurance applications, along with assisting the School Readiness Coordinator. The Gerber State Preschool and the Gerber Elementary School will provide physical facilities to house the Gerber Family Center.

Collaborative Partners

A list of The Gerber Family Center collaborative partners is as follows:

- Tehama County Department of Education Tehama County Department of Education Gerber State Preschool Gerber Union Elementary School District
- Home Help for Hispanic Mothers Tehama County Public Health Tehama County Public Library Tehama County Health Services Agency-Drug and Alcohol Division Far Northern Regional Center Northern Valley Catholic Social Services
- Migrant Education Women, Infants, Children Tehama County Head Start
- Even Start Red Bluff Union High School-Cal-Safe Tehama County Mental Health Family Childcare Association of Shasta and Tehama Counties and Lori Schurman, Angie Rivera, Sara Wagonman, and Rosa Tapia, parents of pre-school age children.

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School Readiness Program: Los Molinos

Contact: Dane Hansen

Title: Principal

Address: P0 Box 7, Los Molinos, CA 96055

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School District/School	Enrollment	Grades
Los Molinos Elementary	336	K-6

School District/School	Enrollment	Grades

Community Characteristics

Los Molinos is located in the upper Sacramento Valley in rural Northern California. Broad plains are bordered by the Sierra Nevada and Pacific coast mountain ranges and divided by the Sacramento River. Los Molinos, an unincorporated agricultural community in Tehama County, is characterized by low socioeconomic living conditions, high unemployment, and low parent education levels.

- One in five households rely on public aid and approximately two-thirds of adults have not earned a high school diploma
- The poverty rate of Tehama County is 2% more than the average for California at 18.5%
- 75% of elementary school students at Los Molinos Elementary participate in the free/reduced breakfast and lunch program
- Unemployment is higher than the state, 5.3% compared to 4.3%

Services and Programs (List one 'new' strategy or service in the 5 Essential and Coordinated Elements)

<u>Early Care and Education</u> — Establish and develop the First Steps Center <u>Parenting and Family Support Services</u> — Provide weekly center-based parenting instruction, including on site childcare during classes

<u>Health and Social Services</u> — Coordinate and integrate social services into a seamless support network

<u>School's Capacity</u> — Articulation meetings between preschool and kindergarten teachers

<u>Program Infrastructure and Administration</u> - Hire full-time Program Coordinator

Collaborative Partners

The Tehama County Community School Readiness collaborative serves as the formal broad-based community collaborative for our center and will meet monthly to oversee the development of the center. Organizations represented are: Northern Valley Catholic Social Services; Northern California Child Development, Inc.; Shasta County Office of Education; Los Molinos Unified School District; Tehama County Health Services Agency; Tehama County Department of Education; Women, Infants, and Children (WIC); Los Molinos Parent Teacher Association; Los Molinos Family Health Center; and Home Help for Hispanic Mothers.